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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/398,652	09/17/1999	WILLIAM A. SAMARAS	042390.P5120D	1359

7590 02/14/2002

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EXAMINER

CHANG, RICK KILTAE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3729

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/398,652

Applicant(s)

SAMARAS ET AL.

Examiner

Rick K. Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 19 and 21-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 22, 24 and 25 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 19, 21, 23 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119(a)-(d) or (f).

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 - 1.) Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2.) Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3.) Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application)
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

Office Action Summary

DETAILED ACTION***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January 24, 2002 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 19, 21, 23 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seidel (US 5,635,847) in view of Gedney et al (US 5,483,421), and further in view of Beers (US 5,680,936).

Re claim 19: Seidel discloses providing an interposer (10); coupling solder balls (12) to the interposer (10); coupling a plurality of semiconductor dice (11) to the first surface (the surface where 11s are mounted); and testing the plurality of semiconductor dice (11) on the interposer (col. 1, lines 20-34 and col. 2, lines 46-51).

Seidel fails to disclose populating the second surface with a plurality of conductive pads; coupling the solder ball to each of selected ones of the plurality of conductive pads; coupling a plurality of cache memory devices and at least one passive device to the first surface; coupling

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the interposer to a substrate with the solder balls after the testing if the plurality of semiconductor dice pass the testing; testing the plurality of cache memory devices; and coupling a microprocessor device to the substrate.

Gedney discloses populating the second surface with a plurality of conductive pads (32); coupling a solder ball (44) to each of selected ones of the plurality of conductive pads (32); coupling the interposer (24) to a substrate (38) with the solder balls (44); and coupling at least one other semiconductor device (Fig. 4 shows a third semiconductor device (20 and 24) is mounted on 38) to the substrate (38) thereby forming a multi-chip subassembly and mounting this subassembly to printed circuit cards (col. 1, lines 7-8) without any defective components.

Beers discloses coupling at least one passive device (see annotated Fig. 3 below) thereby regulating voltage and current to the electronic dice.

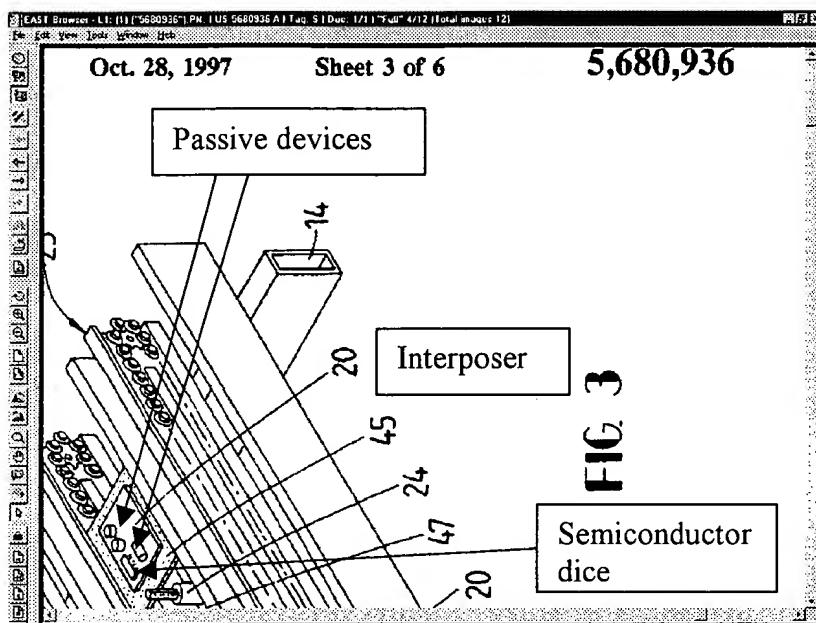
It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seidel by populating the second surface with a plurality of conductive pads; coupling the solder ball to each of selected ones of the plurality of conductive pads; coupling the interposer to a substrate with the solder balls after the testing if the plurality of semiconductor dice pass the testing; and coupling at least one other semiconductor device to the substrate, as taught by Gedney, for the purpose of forming a multi-chip subassembly and mounting this subassembly to printed circuit cards without any defective components.

Further, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seidel by coupling at least one passive device to the first surface of the interposer, as taught by Beers, for the purpose of regulating voltage and current to the electronic chip.

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At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate a plurality of cache memory devices and a microprocessor device to use in a computer to perform computation and temporarily store program applications.

Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to modify Seidel to obtain the invention as specified in claim 19.



Re claim 21: Seidel teaches the invention as described with respect to claim 19 above.

Seidel fails to disclose providing the interposer having organic material.

Gedney discloses providing the interposer (24) having organic material (col. 7, lines 15-16) thereby providing low thermal coefficient of expansion.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seidel by providing the interposer having organic material, as taught by Gedney, for the purpose of providing low thermal coefficient of expansion.

Re claim 23: Seidel teaches the invention as described with respect to claim 19 above.

Seidel discloses scrapping the semiconductor dice coupled to the interposer without any further work if the plurality of semiconductor dice does not pass the testing (col. 1, lines 20-34).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to scrap a plurality of cache memory devices because it would render a computer useless with defective cache memory devices.

Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to modify Seidel to obtain the invention as specified in claim 23.

Re claim 26: Seidel teaches the invention as described with respect to claim 19 above.

Seidel fails to disclose creating a plurality of contacts on the substrate; and electrically connecting the selected ones of the plurality of conductive pads to the plurality of contacts.

Gedney discloses creating a plurality of contacts (42) on the substrate (38); and electrically connecting the selected ones of the plurality of conductive pads to the plurality of contacts (Fig. 5 shows conductive pads 32 are electrically connected to the contacts 42 via solder balls 44) thereby allowing signal to travel from one part of the component to another and providing power and ground to the device.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seidel by creating a plurality of contacts on the substrate; and electrically connecting the selected ones of the plurality of conductive pads to the plurality of contacts, as taught by Gedney, for the purpose of allowing signal to travel from one part of the component to another and providing power and ground to the device.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed February 13, 2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Re argument 1: At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate a plurality of cache memory devices and a microprocessor device to use in a computer to perform computation and temporarily store program applications.

Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to modify Seidel to obtain the invention as specified in claim 19.

Re argument 2: In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, Gedney and Beers, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate a plurality of cache memory devices and a microprocessor device to use in a computer to perform computation and temporarily store program applications. Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to modify Seidel to obtain the invention as specified in claim 19.

Re argument 3: In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., soldering the cache memory . . .) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

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Re argument 4: In response to applicant's arguments against the reference individually, Beers, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking the reference individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Conclusion

4. Applicants are duly reminded that a full and proper response to this Office Action that includes any amendment to the claims and specification of the application as originally filed requires that the applicant point out the support for any amendment made to the disclosure, including the claims. See 37 CFR 1.111 and MPEP 2163.06.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rick K. Chang whose telephone number is (703) 308-4784. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter D. Vo can be reached on (703) 308-1789. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3579 for regular communications and (703) 305-3579 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.


Rick K. Chang
Examiner
Art Unit 3729

RC

February 13, 2002

Attachment for PTO-948 (Rev. 03/01, or earlier)

6/18/01

The below text replaces the pre-printed text under the heading, "Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes," on the back of the PTO-948 (Rev. 03/01, or earlier) form.

INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES

1. Correction of Informalities -- 37 CFR 1.85

New corrected drawings must be filed with the changes incorporated therein. Identifying indicia, if provided, should include the title of the invention, inventor's name, and application number, or docket number (if any) if an application number has not been assigned to the application. If this information is provided, it must be placed on the front of each sheet and centered within the top margin. If corrected drawings are required in a Notice of Allowability (PTO-37), the new drawings MUST be filed within the THREE MONTH shortened statutory period set for reply in the Notice of Allowability. Extensions of time may NOT be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b) for filing the corrected drawings after the mailing of a Notice of Allowability. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

2. Corrections other than Informalities Noted by Draftsperson on form PTO-948.

All changes to the drawings, other than informalities noted by the Draftsperson, MUST be made in the same manner as above except that, normally, a highlighted (preferably red ink) sketch of the changes to be incorporated into the new drawings MUST be approved by the examiner before the application will be allowed. No changes will be permitted to be made other than correction of informalities, unless the examiner has approved the proposed changes.

Timing of Corrections

Applicant is required to submit the drawing corrections within the time period set in the attached Office communication. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Failure to take corrective action within the set period will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application.